

COLOR TABLE LEVEL RESERVATION

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 The present invention addresses problems encountered in the
conversion of continuous tone data into binary data for printing on low
resolution imaging systems. Representation of the continuous tone data is
only roughly approximated through the conversion to binary data. Artifacts of
the binary printing process are objectionable for several reasons. They
10 decrease over all image quality and may sometimes allow for only partial
representation of the original data. Partially formed and/or irregularly formed
text characters are one such example. This invention addresses this problem
by forcing certain levels to be processed through predictable dot dispersion
patterns so as to preserve pre-identified portions of the input data stream.
15 Continuous tone image data for imaging on a digital output device is
processed by identifying at least one problematic tone level in the binary
representation of the image, and identifying at least one non-problematic tone
level in the binary representation of the image. Data transformation is then
applied to cause the digital output device to replace the at least one
20 problematic tone level in the binary representation of the image with output at
the at least one non-problematic tone level in the binary representation of the
image.

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